



Virginia Green Lodging Profile:



Colonial Gardens Bed & Breakfast

Williamsburg, Virginia

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. **Virginia Green** has established "core activities" specific to each sector of tourism, and these practices are considered the required minimum for participation in the program. However, **Virginia Green** encourages its participants to reduce their environmental impacts in all aspects of their operations; and this profile provides a full list of all their "green" activities. These are the activities that guests / customers can expect to find when they visit this facility.

Colonial Gardens

"We are a Williamsburg luxury bed and breakfast with four guest accommodations."

Green Statement: "We want to encourage our guests to try and live green by showing them how easy it can truly be."

CORE ACTIVITIES for Lodging

☒ This symbol indicates a required activity for Virginia Green Lodging facilities. Participants self-certify that these activities are in place and they provide additional specifics on other activities. Visitors to **Colonial Gardens** can expect the following practices:

☒ **Optional Linen Service.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must have some sort of system in place that allows guests to not have their sheets and towels changed every day. This facility pledges that they:

- Have signage in each guest room explaining the linen reuse procedures
- Train house cleaners on process for optional linen service
- Track optional linen participation rate
- Purchase water and energy efficient washers and dryers
- Use non-phosphate, non-toxic, and biodegradable laundry detergents
- Minimize use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals
- Use linens service providers that employ "wet" versus "dry" cleaning
- Line dry linens whenever possible

☒ **Recycling and Waste Reduction.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must recycle and are highly encouraged to maintain a comprehensive recycling program. This facility pledges that they:

- Recycle: glass, aluminum cans, plastic, newspaper, office paper, toner cartridges, cardboard, packing supplies, fluorescent lamps, batteries, electronic equipment
- Provide a clearly marked recycling bin for guests
- Instruct housekeeping to save and reuse unopened items
- Recycle fryer grease
- Donate excess food from events
- Purchase organic foods whenever possible to prepare for guests
- Have an effective food inventory control to minimize waste
- Do not use any disposable containers, dishware, cutlery or cups
- Use cloth napkins

- Use reusable coffee filters
- Provide condiments , cream and sugar, etc. in bulk
- Use water pitches and filtered water to minimize the use of single-use bottles
- Reuse scrap paper for notes
- Reuse or donate shipping and packing supplies
- Use electronic correspondence and forms
- Use “green” cleaners that are dispensed in bulk
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Minimize the use of pesticides and herbicides

☒ **Water Conservation.** The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This facility pledges that they:

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Use water-flow metering to discover leaks and areas of high use
- Have:
 - high efficiency dishwashers
 - low flow restrictors on faucets and showerheads
- Use microfiber technology mops
- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilize native species

☒ **Energy Conservation.** The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills
- Have high efficiency heating & air conditioning (HVAC) systems
- Perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Keep office doors and windows closed if HVAC system is on
- Have installed ceiling fans
- Have geothermal heating and cooling
- Have individual thermostats for each room/area
- Have installed additional insulation
- Use natural lighting
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms
- Have installed high efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps
- Have installed compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and canned lighting

☒ **Green Events Package.** The facility must offer a “green” or “environmentally-friendly” package for conferences, meetings and other events. Even if the facility only offers occasional, small events, at least recycling will be provided. This facility pledges that they:

- Promote the availability of “green meetings/conferences” in marketing packages
- All events are handled with environmental responsibility
- We reuse, donate and recycle.

For more information on **Colonial Gardens**, see www.colonial-gardens.com or contact **Karen Straight** at colonialgardensbandb@verizon.net or 757-220-8087.

For more information on **Virginia Green Lodging** program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/lodging or go to www.viriniagreentravel.org.



Virginia Green Lodging program is a supporting partner of **Virginia Green**, the Commonwealth’s campaign to encourage environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia’s tourism industry. **Virginia Green** is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

